



# Mishawaka Communicator



*Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.*

Dave Wood, Mayor

[www.mishawaka.in.gov](http://www.mishawaka.in.gov)

September 2015

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



This is the time of the year when I like to give an update on the construction projects in the City of Mishawaka. Despite the orange construction sign near City Hall that says "Mishawaka Closed Ahead", I can assure you that Mishawaka is alive and well and open for business. Many new and exciting things have taken place this summer in the Princess City, and I would like to take time to briefly recap some of these events and talk about many of the existing construction projects and when they will be complete.

In March the ribbon cutting was held for Beacon Parkway, the road connecting Capital Avenue (SR331) to Fir Road. There will be multiple ground breakings on the Parkway soon as new development begins to take shape. In May, the ribbon cutting for Camp LaSalle, the new playground at Merrifield Park, took place and the renovated Honor Park was reopened with a ribbon cutting attended by many Mishawaka veterans. In June, the former "weeping underpass" on Union St. was complete and a proclamation and ribbon cutting was done to rename this corridor, which changes names five different times, to Princess City Parkway. Summer was kicked off on July 4th when over 2,000 people joined us in the largest ribbon cutting in Mishawaka history as we opened the newly renovated Central Park. It has been incredibly popular since. In August there were many events including the move of the historic Ward House from Cleveland to Fir Road; the first Mercedes Benz R-Class vehicle, "Made in Mishawaka", rolled off of the assembly line in preparation to be shipped to China, and an announcement was made that a VA Clinic would be built on Trinity Place in Mishawaka's medical campus.

The 2015 construction season has been comprised of several smaller projects rather than the larger projects along major transportation corridors over the past few years. Many of this year's projects included multiple elements such as Long Term Control Program sewer projects, elimination of



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Sep 4  | Movie Night<br>"Wall-E"<br>(Central Park)  |
| Sep 5  | NFL Punt/Pass/Kick<br>(Merrifield Park)  |
| Sep 7  | Mishawaka Heritage Festival<br>(Central Park)  |
| Oct 24 | Beutter Park 5K<br>OktoberFest<br>(Beutter Park)<br>Halloween Movie<br>"Hocus Pocus"<br>(Beutter Park) |
| Oct 30 | "Ghouls & Goodies"<br>(Castle Manor)   |

### ONLINE ACCESS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <a href="http://mishawaka.in.gov">http://mishawaka.in.gov</a>                                       |
|  | <a href="http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka">http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka</a>               |
|  | <a href="http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator">http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator</a>             |
|  | <a href="http://mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation">http://mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation</a> |

## Back-to-school Lunch Tips

*Health Information from Saint Joseph Health System*

Help your kids start the day with a good breakfast to provide the fuel they need to maintain blood sugar levels and prime muscles for the day. Research shows that breakfast eaters have higher school attendance, less tardiness, fewer hunger-induced stomach aches in the morning and increased concentration, problem-solving ability and muscle coordination.

**Food safety** — Clean lunch boxes and bags with warm, soapy water before each use. Pack lunch in an insulated lunch bag with an ice pack or frozen water bottle. Encourage your children to throw out lunch leftovers rather than saving them for an after-school snack, packing a non-perishable snack after-school snack instead.

**Packing school lunches** — Go for the whole grain...at least 2g fiber per serving and 100 percent whole wheat, rye, oats or bran as the first or second ingredient listed. Experiment with barley, oats, farro and quinoa. Limit snack bars, cakes and sweetened cereals.

**Add lean protein** — Chicken, tuna or egg salad, low-sodium deli meats, string cheese, boiled eggs, peanut butter, hummus with pita and chickpeas in pasta salad. Wrap sliced, low-sodium deli turkey or ham around an apple wedge.

**Milk with meals** — Include low-fat milk with meals to provide calcium, protein, phosphorus, magnesium and vitamin D.

**Be a dipper** — Try raw veggies in herb yogurt or fresh fruit chunks in cinnamon or vanilla yogurt.

**Go light on treats** — Keep portion sizes small. Choose healthy treats such as fruit, veggies, whole grains, nuts and low-fat dairy.

Whenever possible, eat together as a family. This will help promote the development of healthy eating patterns that often continue into adulthood.

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

aboveground electric and telephone lines in addition to street, curb and sidewalk improvements. As the construction season nears its end, I want to provide an update on the anticipated completion of the current projects. Please keep in mind that final completion of these public works projects may include some additional traffic restrictions as contractors complete restoration and clean up.

**Edgar Avenue and Lowell Avenue (Main to Sarah) – reopened August 2015** -- This project included sanitary sewer and water mains that were delayed when this section of Main Street was improved. With the new credit union under construction on the corner of Omer and Main it was appropriate to complete street paving, curbs, and sidewalk and utility extensions.

**Mishawaka Avenue Phase II (Cedar to Willow) – reopened August 2015** -- This project included the burying of overhead electric and telephone lines in addition to street improvements that included new storm sewer, sanitary sewer rehabilitation, new street, curb, sidewalk, and energy efficient LED street lights.

**Fir Road and University Drive Intersection – reopen early September 2015** -- With the opening of Beacon Parkway, improvements added a second dedicated left turn lane on University Drive and added curbs and storm water management for the section of Fir Road between the Toll Road and Cleveland Road.

**Cedar Street (Lincolnway to Fourth) – reopen October 2015** -- This project includes storm sewer and water main improvements as well as new street, curb, and sidewalk improvements on Cedar Street.

**Grove, Elizabeth, and Mishawaka – reopen October 2015** -- This street improvement project includes new storm sewer, sanitary sewer rehabilitation, and new street, curb, and sidewalk improvements plus construction of a new public parking lot on Mishawaka Avenue, in cooperation with St. Monica Church.

**Church/Main Connector (Lincolnway to First) – reopen October 2015** -- This project has been complete for approximately two years, but several of the concrete pavement panels on the northbound lanes have defects, so the contractor will be replacing them as part of their warranty on the project.

**Mishawaka Avenue CSO Consolidation (Forest to Ann) – reopen November 2015** -- This project will eliminate a Combined Sewer Overflow at Charlotte Street and improve the storm sewer system as well as widen Mishawaka Avenue and replace curb and sidewalk. We will also make some improvements to Battell Park in the project including a realigned Riverwalk around the historic WPA rock garden, new internal walks and handicapped accessible connections to the bandshell.

**Cedar Street (Mishawaka to Grove) – reopen November 2015** -- This project includes sanitary sewer improvements, storm sewer, upgraded traffic signal with curb ramp upgrades at Cedar and Mishawaka Avenue, street, curb, and sidewalk improvements.

I am often approached by people who have come back to visit Mishawaka after moving away and they comment that Mishawaka looks so much different (and better) now than even a few short years ago. Our construction projects, while certainly frustrating to endure, have played a significant role in making Mishawaka a better, safe and more attractive place to live.

*Mayor Dave Wood*

## Mercury Pollutant Minimization Information

*Tom Florkowski, Wastewater Treatment Division, Compliance Inspector*

The Pollutant Minimization Program helps educate citizens, businesses and industries about mercury and how they can reduce the amount of mercury that they discharge to the treatment plant. EPA regulations have placed low limits on mercury discharges from wastewater treatment plants. While Mishawaka's Wastewater Treatment Plant removes over 90% of the mercury that flows into the facility, it still has effluent mercury levels greater than the recently adopted limits.

Mercury, in its most recognizable form, is a heavy, silvery metal that is liquid at room temperature. This liquid metal form emits invisible, odorless, toxic vapors. Thermostats, thermometers, barometers, dental amalgam and certain batteries are all examples which contain liquid form mercury. Fluorescent lamps and compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) manufactured today also contain a small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. Organic compounds such as fungicides and herbicides also contain forms of mercury, as do preservatives or anti-fouling agents for seed, latex paint, paper products, medicines, and cosmetics.

Proper disposal of items or compounds containing mercury is beneficial to our environment and public health. They should not be put in the garbage or poured down the drain but rather should be recycled or disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner. Some area hardware stores will accept small CFLs for recycling at no charge. For residents of St. Joseph County, the Solid Waste Management District's Household Hazardous Waste Facility, located at 1105 East Fifth Street in Mishawaka, will accept mercury and mercury-containing products.

Find more info online at <http://mishawaka.in.gov/wastewater>.

## Pole Attachment Audit

The Mishawaka Utilities Electric Department will be conducting a pole attachment audit which will run through approximately December 1st. Alden Company will be the contractor performing this work; they have been issued magnetic car stickers and signed letters describing who they are and the work being done.

Alden employees will be taking photos of every pole, making notes, adding ownership tags and checking attachments. They will be walking into yards and down alleyways. Their vehicles may be parked in the same place for extended periods.

Any customer calls or concerns can be forwarded to Todd Fizer at (574) 258-1640 or Mark Richardson at (574) 258-1783.

**Send your questions, comments, or concerns to [communicator\\_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov](mailto:communicator_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov)**